

data support the safe use of the IVAC 530 close within the MR imaging field and the IMED 960/965 at a level of 10 G. The IMED 927 and 960/965 should not be used close within the MR imaging field. Studies of the effect of MR imaging on additional types of intravenous devices, and the potential for intravenous devices to cause artifacts on MR images, should be pursued.

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Medical Practice Question

EDITOR'S NOTE: From time to time medical practice questions from organizations with a legitimate interest in the information are referred to the Scientific Board by the Quality Care Review Commission of the California Medical Association. The opinions offered are based on training, experience and literature reviewed by specialists. These opinions are, however, informational only and should not be interpreted as directives, instructions or policy statements.

Laser Therapy for Plantar Warts

QUESTION:

Is it accepted medical practice to treat plantar warts by laser therapy?

OPINION:

In the opinion of the Scientific Advisory Panels on Dermatology and Orthopedics, laser therapy can be considered established practice in the treatment of plantar warts, but not as a routine or initial form of therapy. Its use should be reserved for lesions that have proved therapeutically unresponsive to other conservative means of treatment such as chemocautery, cryosurgery or electrosurgery. Where lesions are recurrent or very extensive, such as mosaic warts, or multiple, particularly periungual warts, laser therapy may be justified. For most patients with plantar warts, however, there is no conclusive evidence that laser therapy is more effective than less expensive modalities.